

11/30/03
now US 6,629,641
now US 6,631,642
9, 2001; copending Application Serial No. 09/721,885 filed November 24, 2000; [copending Application Serial No. 09/047,146 filed March 24, 1998; copending Application Serial No. 09/157,778 filed September 21, 1998; copending Application Serial No. 09/274,265, filed March 22, 1999; International Application Serial No. PCT/US/99/06505 filed March 24, 1999, and published as WIPO WO 99/49411;]Application Serial No. 09/327,756 filed June 7, 1999, ^{now ABN} and International Application Serial No. PCT/US00/15624 filed June 7, 2000, published as WIPO WO 00/75856 A1; each said application being commonly owned by Assignee, Metrologic Instruments, Inc., of Blackwood, New Jersey, and incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein in its entirety.

On Page 93, please delete the seventh full paragraph which reads as follows:

"Fig. 1V5 is a schematic representation of a presentation-type bar code symbol reading system embodying the PLIIM-based subsystem of Fig. 1V1;"

AMENDMENT OF THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure to read as follows:

--ABSTRACT OF INVENTION

An automatic vehicle classification and identification (AVIC) system for installation along a roadway. The system comprises first and second planar light illumination and imaging (PLIIM) based imaging and profiling subsystems mounted above and along side of the roadway. The function of these subsystems is to profile the geometry of top and side surfaces of each vehicle travelling under the subsystem and generate vehicle profile data for each such vehicle, and also, to capture digital images of both the front and rear license plates mounted on each vehicle, and generate vehicle image data representative of each captured digital image thereof. A computer system is provided for receiving vehicle image and profile data generated by first and second PLIIM based profiling systems, and processing the vehicle image and profile data so as to automatically identify and classify each vehicle travelling along said roadway. By virtue of the present invention, it is now possible to identify and classify vehicles by reading their license plates using planar laser illumination beams and linear image detection arrays with coplanar fields of view, thereby avoiding the need for large and expensive high-intensity lighting equipment required by conventional digital cameras employing 2-D electronic image detectors.--